

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 04133 300806Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 ITC-01 /022 W
-----010911 300814Z /12

R 300703Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3379

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4133

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, AS
SUBJ: APPLICATION TO IAC REQUESTING DUTY INCREASE ON
WALLCOVERINGS

REF: STATE 131441

1. IAC INVESTIGATION INTO RATES OF DUTY ON WALLPAPERS IS PART OF GENERAL TARIFF REVIEW ON PAPER PRODUCTS. DRAFT REPORT ON PAPER PRODUCTS HAS BEEN COMPLETED BUT NOT YET RELEASED AND EMBASSY HAS NO INDICATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE THEREIN.

2. IAC PROJECT OFFICER INFORMED EMBASSY THAT THERE ARE ONLY TWO AUSTRALIAN WALLPAPER MANUFACTURERS, AWM, AND WATTYL. WATTYL DID NOT REQUEST ANY ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. AWM, HOWEVER, HAS REQUESTED THAT A RATE OF DUTY OF 30 PER CENT AD VALOREM BE APPLIED TO CERTAIN TYPES OF WALLPAPERS. PRESENT RATE OF DUTY ON WALLPAPERS IS 3 AND 6 PERCENT AD VALOREM. PROJECT OFFICER WILL FORWARD TRANSCRIPT OF AWM'S REQUEST TO EMBASSY, AND IF THERE SHOULD BE ANY SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL ASPECTS, EMBASSY WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT.

3. PROJECT OFFICER COULD NOT GIVE INDICATION OF DATE OF RELEASE OF DRAFT REPORT. AFTER DRAFT REPORT IS RELEASED, PUBLIC HEARINGS ARE HELD AT WHICH INTERESTED PARTIES CAN COMMENT ON IAC RECOMMENDATIONS. FINAL REPORT IS THEN UNCLASSIFIED

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PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND, ULTIMATELY, CABINET. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT MURCHISON ADVISE U.S. MANUFACTURERS OF PENDING REPORT AND THAT, SHOULD REPORT CONTAIN A RECOMMENDATION FOR INCREASED DUTY ON WALLPAPER, THEY BE PREPARED TO MAKE A SUBMISSION IN OPPOSITION AT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS.

4. EMBASSY WILL NOTIFY DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS DRAFT REPORT
IS RELEASED.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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